

R E M A R K S

1. Reconsideration and further prosecution of the above-identified application are respectfully requested in view of the discussion that follows. Claims 1-42 are pending in this Application.

Claims 1, 2, 15, 16, 29 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,742,904 to Pinder et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,489 to Lichter et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,901,214 to Shaffer et al. and U.S. Pat. No. 6,128,481 to Houde et al. Claims 3, 17 and 31 have been rejected as being obvious over Pinder et al. in view of Lichter et al. Claims 4, 5, 18, 19, 32 and 33 have been rejected as being obvious over Pinder et al. in view of Lichter et al. and Shaffer et al. Claims 6, 7, 9-13, 20, 23-27 and 34-41 have been allowed.

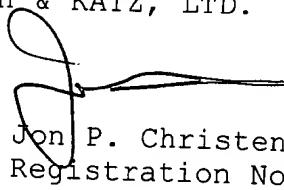
2. Claims 1-5, 8, 14-19, 22, 28-33 and 42 have been cancelled. An early notice of allowance of claims 6, 7, 9-13, 20, 21, 23-27, 34-41 as now presented, is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite

prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

  
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July 14, 2004  
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